

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 EUR-12

ERDA-05 ISO-00 MC-02 ACDA-05 EA-06 /038 W

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R 091229Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 6967

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 11711

EXCON

E.O. 11652 XGDS1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, B FOL, US, HU, PL

SUBJECT: DISCLOSURE OF STATUS OF COCOM CLEARANCE

REFS: A. STATE 106287

B. VIENNA 3910

AMEMBASSY VIENNA FYI ONLY

1. USDEL TO COCOM IS NATURALLY INTERESTED IN GIVING
BEST POSSIBLE SERVICE TO AMERICAN EXPORTS WHICH REQUIRE
COCOM CLEARANCE. UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, THE MANNER IN
WHICH WASHINGTON AGENCIES APPARENTLY INFORM INTERESTED
PARTIES AT HOME, OR VIA CONCERNED POSTS ABROAD,
OF REFERRALS FOR CLEARANCE HERE CAUSES SUBSTANTIAL
EXTRA WORK FOR THE USDEL AND RESULTS IN TIME LOST FROM
GETTING THE REAL JOB DONE. WE HAVE BEEN, AND WILL
ATTEMPT TO CONTINUE TO BE, RESPONSIVE TO INQUIRIES FROM
THE TRADE, BUT WOULD PREFER TO BE ABLE TO REFER QUES-
TIONS BACK TO COMMERCE/OEA.

2. THE FORMAT IN BOTH REFERENCED MESSAGES IS, TO A CER-
TAIN EXTENT, DECEPTIVE AND MAY LEAD INQUIRERS TO HAVE
HIGHER HOPES FOR PROMPT COCOM CLEARANCE THAN THE FACTS
WARRANT. NEITHER OF THE CASES CITED "HAS BEEN REFERRED
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TO COCOM," OR "IS UNDER COCOM REVIEW." THAT DEALT WITH

IN REF A IS THE SUBJECT OF STATE A-3041, APRIL 30, WHICH REACHED THE USDEL ONLY ON MAY 6 AND IS NOW IN OUR RATHER SUBSTANTIAL BACKLOG OF CASES AWAITING TRANSCRIPTION AS COCOM DOCUMENTS. TRUE, IT IS ONE WHICH WILL BE SUBMITTED UNDER THE "EASY ACCESS" PROCEDURE AND NO DIFFICULTIES WOULD BE FORESEEN FOR THIS CLASS OF EQUIPMENT. THAT IN REF B HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF OC REVIEW (OC DOC 5280) BUT NO INSTRUCTIONS TO SUBMIT IT TO COCOM HAVE AS YET BEEN RECEIVED BY THE USDEL. EVEN THOUGH THE MATERIAL CONCERNED IS FAIRLY LOW-CAPACITY, THE FACT THAT IT IS FOR OEM SUPPLY MAY WELL COMPLICATE COCOM CONSIDERATION, ONCE SUBMITTED. THIS IS BECAUSE OF THE UNSET-TLED STATUS OF US PROPOSALS FOR TREATMENT OF THIS TYPE OF TRANSACTION IN THE REVISION OF THE COMPUTER ITEM, IL 1565. A FURTHER ROUND OF DISCUSSION ON THAT REDEFINITION CONCLUDED MAY 7 WITHOUT FINAL RESOLUTION, AND TALKS WILL PROBABLY START AGAIN ON JULY 1.

3. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT AMENDMENTS MAY LIMIT OEA'S OPTIONS IN THIS AREA, WE WOULD PREFER THAT COCOM CONSIDERATION OR USDEL INVOLVEMENT NOT BE RAISED WITH INQUIRERS. THERE IS, OF COURSE, A SECURITY BASIS FOR TAKING THIS LINE SINCE COCOM ACTIVITIES AND PROCEDURES ARE, BY AGREEMENT AMONG THE MEMBERS

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CONFIDENTIAL. IF IT IS INDEED NECESSARY TO BRING US IN, THEN WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT OEA (AND POSTS) USE THE FORMAT THAT INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN DESPATCHED TO THE USDEL ON SUCH-AND-SUCH A DATE, THAT TRANSMISSION TIME VARIES UPWARD FROM A WEEK, THAT IT KNOWS USDEL WILL DEAL WITH MATTER AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE, AND THAT OEA WILL ACT AS SOON AS IT RECEIVES USDEL'S CABLED REPORT OF CLEARANCE, CAUTIONING (IF APPROPRIATE) THAT US DEL HAS INSTRUCTIONS TO REFER DIRECT INQUIRERS BACK TO OEA. IF OEA DESIRES STATUS REPORT, IT SHOULD GIVE US AIRGRAM, TELEGRAM OR--IF KNOWN--COCOM DOC. NUMBER INVOLVED, SINCE SEARCHING OUR FILES BY BEWT CASE NUMBER AND/OR APPLICANT NAME IS TIME CONSUMING. AS NOTED IN OUR 7614 (NOTAL) WE TRANSCRIBE INCOMING INSTRUCTIONS ON A CHRONOLOGICAL BASIS, BUT WILL GIVE SPECIAL HANDLING (AS WE WILL NOW WITH REFCASES) WHEN OUR BASIC INSTRUCTIONS, OR FOLLOW-UPS FROM DEPARTMENT, SO INDICATE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: REVIEW OF OEA STATUS DISCLOSURE PRACTICES, TAKING USDEL COMMENTS INTO ACCOUNT, AND TRANSMISSION, IN DUE COURSE, OF APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE.
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